William Jackson Porterfield, Private, Co. C, 1 AL Infantry, CS

- 1850 December 2: The U.S. Federal Census enumerated in Lowndes County, AL showed seven-year-old William living with his parents and siblings. His father, Willis, was a planter.
- July 26: The U.S. Federal Census enumerated in Butler County, AL showed 17-year-old W.J., living with his parents and siblings. His father was a laborer.
- 1861 March 23: Along with his brother John, Porterfield enlisted in the C.S. Army and mustered into Old Co. K, 1st AL Infantry.

April 7 to June 30: Company Muster Roll. Present.

July & August: Company Muster Roll. Absent. Remarks "Absent on furlough."

Summer of 61: Old Co K becomes "New" Co. C 1 AL Infantry.

1862 April 8: Porterfield and brother John were again captured at Island NO. 10 and sent to Camp Butler, Springfield, IL.

September 23: Sent to Vicksburg, MS to be exchanged.

- July 9: Captured, along with his brother John, at Port Hudson and released three days later on parole.
- 1864 November 30: Both brothers were wounded at the Battle of Franklin.

December 17: Captured in Franklin, TN and sent to Louisville.

January 23: Brother, John, was transferred to Louisville, and then on to a prison in Ohio, Camp Chase.

February 6: Was admitted to U.S.A. General Hospital No. 1 in Nashville. Intake papers read.

Injury: Gunshot fracture lower third right tibia, and fibula.

Wounded at: Franklin, Tenn, Nov. 30, 1864

Date of operation: Dec. 2, 1864

Operation: Circular amputation upper third right leg.

February 9: Transferred to U.S.A. General Hospital No. 11.

April 4: Transferred to U.S.A. General Hospital No. 1 with small pox. Remarks "Not vaccinated."

May 6: Sent to provost Marshal.

June 16: Released from prison after taking the oath of allegiance. His "place of residence" was listed as Fort Deposit, AL. He had light complexion, light hair, hazel eyes and was 6' tall.

1870 June 24:

APPRECIENCED.—Jay Porterfield killed Wm. E. Spivey at a tournament dinner at Calhoun, this county, in the summer of 1863. He escaped, and went to Texas, leaving his family here. Last Friday night he was arrested in the store of Mr. Jasper Centerfit at Calhoun. He was brought to Hayneville Saturday, and committed to jail under the indictment found against him for murder. His attorneys, Messrs. Clements & Gilchrist, are making an effort to have him bailed. The reason of Porterfield in returning to the scene of his crime is not quite clear.—Hayneville Examiner.

July 5: The U.S. Federal Census enumerated in Haynesville, Lowndes County, AL showed William J. as a prisoner in the Lowndes County Jail.

December 2:

Jay Porterfield, sentenced to the penitentiary from Lowndes county, on the 9th ult., has been pardoned.

1872 November 2: Married Mary C. Cowart in Butler County, AL.

1878 June 19: William Jackson "Jay" Porterfield died in Alabama.

¹ The Montgomery Advertiser, Montgomery, AL, Friday, 24 Jun 1870, pg. 4

² The Times-Argus, Selma, Al, Friday 2 Dec 1870, pg. 3